



International Electoral Observation
Briefing & Information Session
April 28 & 29 2008



AGENDA

Objectives:

Day 1 – What is an observation mission and what is the role of an observer? What are key issues affecting Former Parliamentarians in the role of an observer?

Day 2 – What does an observer need to know to stay safe and be culturally adaptable while on mission?

Briefing & Information Session Location:

CANADEM Conference Centre (suite 1001)
1 Nicholas Street, Ottawa Ontario
(613-789-3328)

Recommended Dress: Casual

Monday April 28, 2008:

- 12:00-12:15 Arrival of Participants (light lunch served)
- 12:15 – 12:30 Introduction to the Briefing Session
- Outline of topics to be covered
 - Purpose and context of the session
 - Self-introduction of briefing participants
- 12:30-1:00 Composition of a Typical Election Observation Mission (Alisha Todd, CANADEM)
- Who runs election observation missions?(OSCE, OAS, EU, NDI, IFES, etc)
 - What is the typical composition of an election observation mission?
 - What is the observer's role in an election observation mission?
- 1:00-2:15 A Case Study from an International Organization
- Guest speaker TBD
- 2:15-2:45 Break (refreshments served)
- Photographs taken for ID Cards
- 2:45-5:15 Job Description of an Election Observer (Cheickh Bangoura)
- What is the role of an STO/an LTO on Election Day?
 - Brief review of the election observers Code of Conduct
 - Role play of scenarios covered by the Code of Conduct

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- 5:15-6:15 Overview of the Constituent Parts of an Election Process (Alexandre Michaud, Elections Canada)
- Discussion of main elements which should be observed and evaluated in any electoral observation mission
- 6:15-6:30 How Canada gets involved in International Election Observation Missions (TBD, CIDA)
- 7:00-8:30 Working Dinner and Discussion Session (Location: TBD)
- Over dinner allow participants an opportunity to ask questions and discuss issues raised throughout the day

Tuesday April 29, 2008:

- 8:30-10:30 Introduction to Intercultural Awareness (Randy Weekes)
- Group analysis of the cultural baggage Canadians bring with them to election observation missions
- Discussion of cultural biases regarding democracy
- Discussion of how intercultural issues relate to election observation
- 10:30-10:45 Break
- 10:45-11:30 Introduction to Personal Safety (TBD)
- An introduction to the basics of personal safety while on mission.
- 11:30-11:45 Conclusion

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